

Note: This proposal addresses Game Management Units outside the scope of the Central Southwest Region meeting.

PROPOSAL 2

5 AAC 92.044. Permit for hunting black bear with the use of bait or scent lures.

5 AAC 95.052. Discretionary permit hunt conditions and procedures.

Open two bear baiting seasons in Units 9, 11, 13, 14B, 14C, 16, and 17 where bear baiting is legal as follows.

Proposed changes to the following bear baiting seasons are:

Units 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 2-3, 5-----	Apr 15-June 15 / Sept 1-Oct 15
Units 6A, 6B, 6C -----	Apr 15-June 15 / Aug 20-Oct 15
Unit 6D	Apr 15-June 10 / Sept 10-Oct 15
Units 7, 9, 11-13, 14A & B, 14C Remainder, 15, 20 -----	Apr 15-June 30 / July 1 - Oct 15
Units 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25-----	Apr 1 - Jun 30 / July 1 - Oct 15

With these changes in season dates and caribou herds dropping throughout the State of Alaska, the Department of Fish and Game can regulate / put in emergency orders if the bear population drops too low. In certain units of Alaska, it is harder for some hunters / subsistence users to gain access to their bear baiting sites and being able to hunt them due to the rivers not being safe to travel on.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Bethel Advisory Committee proposes to have two (2) bear baiting seasons in the State of Alaska in Units where bear baiting is legal. Hunters and subsistence users will have better opportunities to take bears during a two (2) season bear baiting. In certain units throughout the state, hunters & subsistence users may only have two (2) to three (3) weeks to get a legally take a take. There are nineteen (19) out of twenty-six (26) units in Alaska with a NO CLOSED SEASON for black bears.

Current State of Alaska Fish and Game Areas Open for Bear Baiting:

Units 1-(A, B, C), 2-3, 5, 6(A, B, C) -----	Apr 15 – Jun 15
Unit 6D*	Apr 15 – Jun 15
Units 1D, 7,9, 11-13, 14A & B, 14C Remainder, 15, 19(A, B, C, E) ---	Apr 15 – Jun 30
19D remainder, 20, 21(A, B, E), 23, 24 A & B, 25(A, B, C)	
Unit 16	Jul 1–Oct 15 / Apr 15-Jun30
Unit 17	Apr 15-May 31
Unit 18	Apr 1 – Jun30
Unit 19D East Predator Control Area: Those portions of the Kuskokwim River Drainage within Unit 19D Upstream from Selatna River Drainage and the Black River Drainage 21C & D, 24C & D and 25D	Aug 1-Sept 30 / Apr 15-Jun 30

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee? Yes.

PROPOSED BY: Bethel Fish & Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F24-016)
